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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/804,749      | 03/19/2004  | Kazuaki Morita       | MM8857US            | 7676             |

22203 7590 11/23/2005  
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| EXAMINER |
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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3765

DATE MAILED: 11/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tillotson (U.S. 2,060,961). Tillotson discloses the invention as claimed. Tillotson teaches a work glove comprising a fiber-made base glove wherein a first reinforcement coat is formed on a surface of the base glove to cover a portion that extends along sides of and towards tips of a thumb and forefinger through a center of a crotch between the thumb and forefinger, by adhering to the portion a liquid of compound rubber latex 20, and a second reinforcement coat (col.2, lines 30-32) formed to cover the surface of the base glove except a back thereof, by adhering a liquid of compound rubber latex to the corresponding surface area of the base glove including the portion covered with the first reinforcement coat.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berend (U.S. 4,371,988) in view of Tillotson '961. Berend discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Berend teaches a work glove 1 comprising a fiber-made base glove wherein a first reinforcement coat 2 is formed on a surface of the base glove to cover a portion that extends along sides of and towards tips of a thumb and forefinger through a center of a crotch between the thumb and forefinger, and a second reinforcement coat 3 formed to cover the surface of the base glove except a back thereof, to the corresponding surface area of the base glove including the portion covered with the first reinforcement coat. The first reinforcement coat is formed to cover the portion that extends lengthwise along the sides of and towards the tips of the thumb and forefinger through the center of the crotch between the thumb and forefinger, and cover the entire thumb and forefinger of the base glove, and appears to range in a lengthwise direction from 5 mm from the center of the crotch up to the tips of the thumb and forefinger and in a widthwise direction from 5 mm to 10 cm. However, Berend does not teach rubber latex coating. Tillotson '961 teaches a fiber-made glove with first and second reinforcement latex coating layers. Tillotson teaches that it is known to provide gloves with superior water or moisture proofing qualities, with an increased coating thickness at certain glove areas. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to substitute the coating of Berend with the rubber latex as taught by Tillotson, so that the glove has substantial waterproof properties.

**Conclusion**

5. The prior art made of record on the attached PTO-892, and not relied upon, is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

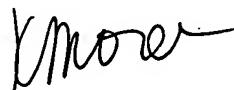
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Primary Examiner Katherine Moran at (571) 272-4990. The examiner can be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm, and alternating Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Calvert, may be reached at (571) 272-4983. The official and after final fax number for the organization where this application is assigned is (571) 273-8300. General information regarding this application may be obtained by contacting the Group Receptionist at (571) 272-3700.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kmm

November 21, 2005



Katherine Moran

Primary Examiner, AU 3765